system and the persons consulted, namely, the Inspector of Vernacular Schools, the majority of the Assistant Inspectors of Schools and the majority of the Headmasters, were against the system.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Is it not due to the fact that this system entailed some personal inconvenience on the Headmasters?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It may be, but they get an allowance for the purpose. Even if there is personal inconvenience it may be presumed that the Headmaster would put up with it for the sake of the allowance.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Was the fact of the strain on the minds of four or five year old children by a system of imparting education continually for five hours in the day carefully considered by the Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. On the other hand, there are disadvantages which far outweigh the one that the member says.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Was the strain on the child's mind negligible?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is not quite negligible, but the disadvantages far outweigh the advantages to be gained by the double-shift system.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Does the failure of the system consist only in the number of pupils falling away?

MR. K GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No; there are several other objections also.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): What is the objection to placing the report on the table?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government thought that it was unnecessary as the discontinuance of the system has been ordered but if the member wants to see the report, I shall take steps to place it on the table before the close of this Session.*

Report of the Navigation Special Officer.

20. **MR. A. J. JOHN** (*Vaikam*): With reference to the answers to question No. 94 asked on the 11th August 1926 (Vol. IX, No. 6) and question No. 279 asked on the 30th April 1927 (Vol. X, No. 9), will the Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of the report of the Navigation Special Officer?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): A copy of the report of the Special Officer has been supplied to the members.

Pallipuram-Kadutturutti Road.

21. **MR. A. J. JOHN** (*Vaikam*): With reference to the representation made by the member for the Vaikam taluk in the Sri Mulam Popular

* *Vide* Appendix A to Vol. XII, No. 6.

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Assembly in 1927, with regard to the improvement of the Pallipuram-Kadutturutti road, will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken in the matter?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The representation has been referred to the Chief Engineer for report.

Improvement of Canals in Vaikam Taluk.

22. MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): With reference to the Dewan's reply to representation No. 117 at the 23rd session of the Assembly, will the Government be pleased to state whether they will appoint a Special Officer to investigate the present condition of the canals of Vaikam taluk and ways of improving them?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The Chief Engineer has reported that a Special Officer is not necessary at present and that the improvement of the canals is being attended to one by one. Government accept the Chief Engineer's view.

Vernacular Middle School, Punalur.

23. MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Vernacular Middle School, Punalur, is located in an insanitary site;

(*b*) if so, the action taken by them to remove this school to a suitable place?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) above, this question does not arise. On other grounds, however, the question of removing the school to another site is under consideration.

Bridge across Hanumannadi.

24. MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*):

(1) Are the Government aware that the people of Klangad have to cross the Hanumannadi for buying their daily necessaries of life?

(2) Is it a fact that casualties occur almost every year during floods in the Hanumannadi running through the villages of Aikudi and Samburvadakara for want of a bridge there to cross the river?

(3) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the action taken by them to prevent this calamity?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (1) Petitions have been received pointing out that the people have often to cross the river.

(2) Government have no information.

(3) An estimate for the construction of a bridge over the Hanumannadi river at Ayikudi is under preparation.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to the answer to part (1), may I know from the member whether, apart from petitions, representations also have been made in the Popular Assembly?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): I shall take the information from the member.

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